

Auctions

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.
No. 298.

THE following Particulars of Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction, to be held at the Offices of the Public Works Department, on **MONDAY**, the 5th day of June, 1899, at 3 P.M., are published for general information.

By Command, **J. G. T. BUCKLE,**
for the Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 29th May, 1899. [733a]

Particulars of the letting by Public Auction of a Sale, to be held on Monday, the 5th day of June, 1899, at 3 P.M., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of **CROWN LAND**, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 Years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

Inland Lot No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square ft.	Annual Rent	Direct Price
		N.	E.	S.	W.			
133C	Chatter Road (Reclamation, back of Telegraph Co.'s Offices)	93.4	91.4	93.6	83.6	6,303	118	30,665

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES
PUBLIC AUCTION.
MR. GEO. P. LAMMERT, has been
 instructed to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
 on
WEDNESDAY, the 7th June, 1899,
 at 2.30 P.M.,
 (POSTPONED FROM THE 25TH MAY.)
 at his OFFICES in Duddell Street,
 in 7 Lots.

THE FOLLOWING VERY VALUABLE
LEASEHOLD AND RECLAMATION
PROPERTIES.

Vis. —

LOT 1.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL
GROUND situate at Victoria in the
colony of Hongkong registered in the LAND
OFFICE as SECTION C OF INLAND LOT
No. 1,414.

Area 538 square feet. Annual proportion of
Crown Rent \$8.00.

The Premises situate upon it are No. 244,
Queen's Road Central and consist of a three
storeyed Chinese Shop and a portion of "THE
POKSIKMAN'S ARMS" and are let on a lease for
years from the 1st March, 1898, at the monthly
rent of \$45.00 and taxes.

LOT 2.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL
GROUND situate at Victoria, aforesaid
and registered in the Land Office as SUB-
SECTION No. 2, of SECTION N OF IN-
LAND LOT No. 311.

Area 538 square feet. Annual proportion of
Crown Rent \$8.40.

The premises situate upon it are known as
No. 382, Queen's Road Central and consist of
three storied Chinese Shop.

LOT 3.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL
GROUND situate at Victoria, aforesaid
and registered in the Land Office as SECTION
OF MARINE LOT No. 100.

Area 1861 square feet. Annual proportion
Crown Rent \$30.85.

The premises situate upon it are known as
No. 215, Praya West, and consist of a two
storied Chinese Shop.

LOT 4.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL

GROUND situate at Victoria, aforesaid, and registered in the Land Office as **SECTION K MARINE LOT No. 190.**

Area 667 square feet. Annual proportion of Crown Rent \$7.50.

The premises situate upon it are known as 3771, Queen's Road West, consisting of a storied Chinese Shop and No. 9, Sai Hing, consisting of a godown.

LOT 6.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL GROUND situate at Victoria, aforesaid, registered in the Land Office as **SECTION K MARINE LOT No. 188.**

Area 1,576 square feet. Annual proportion of Crown Rent \$15.00.

The premises situate upon it are known as 3741, Praya Street, and consist of a two-storied Chinese Shop.

LOT 6.—ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL GROUND situate at Victoria, aforesaid, registered in the Land Office as **SECTION K MARINE LOT No. 168.**

Area 974 square feet. Annual proportion of Crown Rent \$11.50.

The premises situate upon it are known as 4, On Ning Lane, and consist of a Chinese shop.

OT 77, ALL THAT PIECE OF PARCEL
GROUND, situate at Victoria, aforesaid,
registered in the Land Office as the Re-
maining Portion, MARINE LOT No. 238
there, with the Reclamation 10, the Re-
maining Portion of the said Lot 10,
an area of LOT 443 square feet. Annual pro-
portion of Crown Rent \$ 8.84.
The premises situate upon it are known as
50 and 51, Praya West, and consist of
these godown.
The Reclamation has nearly been completed
contains an area of 2,107 square feet.
50; Particulars and Conditions of Sale
is to
The Auctioneer,
Messrs DEACON & CHARTERS,
The Vendors Solicitors,
Hongkong, 17th May 1890. [6]2

Insurance.
THE GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY OF HAMBURG.
 The Undersigned AGENTS of and for the
 Company, The German Fire Insurance
 Company of Hamburg, in and for
 HONGKONG and CHINA, have
 New Rates of Insurance for
 Fire Insurance, and for
 Marine Insurance, and for
 Marine Insurance, and for

FROM AUSTRALIAN PAPERS.

TELEGRAMS.

GREATER BRITAIN EXHIBITION.

LONDON, April 28th.
At the Greater Britain Exhibition at Earl's Court, the Queensland gold trophy will be shaped like old Temple Bar, with obelisks representing the individual fields.
It is probable that Victoria will not exhibit a gold trophy.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

LONDON, May 3th.
The report of the committee appointed in June, 1896, to consider the matter of the Pacific cable, has been published.

The report shows that the subsidy offered by Great Britain is limited in its operation for twenty years.
Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, regards the offer as liberal in character and as a proof of the desire of the Imperial Government to co-operate with the colonies.

The Standard considers that the Imperial Government has made a mistake in not participating with the colonies in the cost of the construction of the cable, and that the colonies are unlikely to consider the offer a liberal one.

MISSIE LOFTUS OBTAINS A DIVORCE.
LONDON, April 28th, 3:15 p.m.
Mrs. Marie Cecilia McCarthy, better known as Missie Loftus, the popular actress, has obtained a divorce from her husband, Mr. Justin Hunly McCarthy.

THE HOLLEY FAILURE.

LONDON, April 28th, 3:15 p.m.
The claim of Sir William Marriott of £20,000 for commission against Mr. E. T. Hooley, has been reduced to £5,000.

COLONIAL WELSH MUTTON.

LONDON, April 27th, 4:35 p.m.
The English Farmers' Association, Limited, which carries on business at Holborn Circus, London has been fined £40 for selling Colonial mutton as Welsh mutton.

TERRIBLE CYCLONE IN AMERICA.

LONDON, April 28th, 3:15 p.m.
A cyclone has swept over the State of Missouri, United States, causing great damage.
Sixty persons were killed, and over a thousand injured, and four hundred houses were destroyed.

LONDON, April 30th, 3:10 p.m.
The cyclone which passed over the State of Missouri wrought havoc in the towns of Kirksville and Newton.

The first reports said that sixty persons had been killed; later reports give the names of forty more.
Such was the force of the wind that movable property was carried a distance of twenty-five miles.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY QUESTION.

LONDON, April 26th.
Sir John Lubbock, M.P., who presided at the meeting of the London Trust Company, Limited, yesterday, expressed the opinion that the action of New Zealand in regard to the Midland Railway debenture-holders would be injurious to the best interests of the colony. He hoped that Mr. Seddon the Premier, would examine the question.

AUSTRALIAN ART IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, April 26th.
Mr. Arthur Streeton has had one picture and Mr. David Davies and Mr. Percy Spence each two pictures accepted at the Royal Academy for the coming exhibition.

LYNCHING IN THE STATES.

LONDON, May 1st.
Lynching is spreading throughout the State of Georgia (U.S.) in connection with the agitation against negroes.
The newspapers are clamouring for the emigration of the negroes.

AN OCEAN RACE.

LONDON, May 1st, 2:45 p.m.
A great ocean race has been run between the Cunard Company's steamer *Lucania* and the American Line steamer *St. Louis* over the last 1,000 miles of the voyage from England to New York.
The *Lucania* won by 3 hours 52 minutes.

THE SUDAN AND THE SOUDAN.

LONDON, April 26th, 3:30 p.m.
Lord Kitchener Governor-General of the Sudan and Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, has arrived at Berber after a ride of 800 miles on camel.

Everywhere the Sirdar found the tribesmen grateful for their deliverance from the despotism of the Mahdi and steadily repairing the ravages of the Derwishes.

GREAT DYNAMITE OUTRAGE.

LONDON, May 1st.
One thousand masked and armed miners seized a train in the State of Idaho, United States, and loaded it with dynamite, which was exploded, with the result that 1,000,000 dollars worth of property was destroyed. The object of the outrage was to assist the miners who are on strike.

THE ROBBERY AT PARR'S BANK.

LONDON, April 30th, 3:15 p.m.
A man named Richards, a Jeweller, has been arrested and charged with being concerned in the great robbery of banknotes from Parr's Bank, Limited, Bartholomew-lane, City. Three of the stolen notes were found in his possession.
Richards was brought up at the Mansion House Police Court yesterday, and remanded.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

LONDON, April 29th.
During a fog a steamer collided with one of the lightships on the Goodwin Sands, greatly damaging it. The lightship utilised the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy, and by this means obtained help from Ramsgate.

AUSTRALIAN WINE.

LONDON, April 28th.
Mr. W. J. Taverner, Minister for Public Works and Agriculture in Victoria, will on Monday discuss with Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, the obstacles in the way of the use of Australian leather in the British army, and the taxes upon dried apricots and wine.

Mr. Taverner has had an interview with Sir Thomas Lipton.

Sir Thomas Lipton assured Mr. Taverner that there was a great future for Victorian wines.
If Sir Thomas Lipton becomes interested in the industry, he will establish a depot in the colony to purchase and mature wines at the place they are produced.

Mr. Thomas has undertaken to advise in connection with the wine-cour at the Greater Britain Exhibition.

A "MYSTICAL" HEALER.

PROSECUTION OF EDWARDS THE "AUSTRALIAN DOCTOR."
LONDON, May 3th, 3:10 p.m.

Dr. Edwards the "mystical healer" is being prosecuted for imposing on the credulous.
(On March 27th the Paris correspondent of the London Standard announced that a "Dr. Edwards" had been arrested in Paris for imposing on the credulous.)

Edwards, a mystic healer, who was practising in Australia in 1893, was creating a sensation in Paris, and effecting "what were termed 'marvellous cures'." The correspondent afterwards went to the rooms where the "Doctor" received his patients, and tells the following story.
"Lois Fuller, the creator of the serpentine dance, came and was watching the operations of the healer with intense interest. She told me it was her second visit, and that she hoped Dr. Edwards would save her eyesight, which was seriously injured by the strong electric light in which she had to perform every night. While we were talking it came to the turn of a young gentleman, who had lost the use of his voice. Lois Fuller related to me that the same young man was there the previous day, and that she had learned from the lady accompanying him that he had not been able to speak a word for several years. He managed on that day to utter a few words, or rather to whisper a few words, after the healer had manipulated his throat, and on the occasion of my visit I heard him speak in a low voice words of thanks to the doctor. After seeing numerous other persons come to the healer in pain and leave declaring that it had ceased, Lois Fuller's turn was reached. She allowed her eyelids to be stroked, her temples and head to be manipulated, and when she left the healer's hands she came to me and seized my wrist, saying, 'I feel just as if I had been electrified; I cannot feel the fluid.' I was obliged to confess I could not, but I spoke the truth when I told her I hoped the healer would be successful in improving her sight."

(As previously reported to our columns, the correspondent to the Melbourne Age, writing under date April 1st, said: 'A mystic healer has turned up in Paris in the shape of a Dr. Edwards, who asserts that he has spent the greater part of his life practising medicine in Australia, but that he was born in France. He discovered his healing power accidentally. He cured a consumptive patient, the daughter of a friend, who was most desirous of saving her life, but found that his medical skill was powerless to correct the progress of the disease. He then "willed" her recovery, and little by little she was restored to health. Since then he has visited many of the islands of the Pacific Ocean, Mexico, and the United States, and has finally settled down in Paris, the paradise of impostors. Extraordinary stories are told of his wonderful cures, and if half of them are true, he has succeeded in conferring immortality upon the human race, so long, at any rate, as he remains upon the earth.)

DISEASED RABBITS.

There appears to be a great trade being carried on in diseased rabbits from the country, according to the experience of Inspector Baker, of the City Council. Mr. Baker has recently condemned some hundreds of rabbits which have come into the Sydney market in a very diseased condition. In a large number of them cysts were found, some being as big as an egg. Many of the rabbits were also unfit for consumption for other reasons. Mr. Baker says that it has been the practice to dispose of these rabbits to small eating houses for 2s or 3s a dozen, instead of 10s. or 12s., which is the ordinary market rate for prime rabbits, as it is hoped that not many of them have gone into consumption.

AN INGENIOUS SWINDLE.

For the past few weeks many forged cheques have been in circulation in Sydney, and a number of city firms have been swindled by the unprincipled swindlers of the pen. In the majority of the instances alluded to the method of uttering the cheque has been crude and ancient, even if successful. The visitor has generally assisted in receiving a substantial balance as change. In these cases, his chief dependence was placed upon the excellence of his calligraphy, the extreme plausibility of his manner, and an apparently honest demeanour. But these were discarded by a clever forger who victimised a number of business men in the city on April 22, his methods being much more up-to-date. Shortly after noon on that day, Messrs. F. Lasseter and Company received a call on the telephone. On answering it they were informed that Messrs. — and Company, wool and shipping merchants, were calling. The manager of the firm ringing up, they were told, urgently required some gold. The bank had just closed—could Messrs. Lasseter and Company oblige them by cashing a cheque for about £30 if a clerk were sent up immediately? An affirmative answer was given, and within a quarter of an hour a neatly-dressed man of 28 or 30 years of age—an ideal clerk—walked in with a cheque for £33, signed, apparently, by the manager of the other firm. A representative of Lasseter's counted the money out in gold, but not being altogether satisfied of the genuineness of his caller, instructed a clerk to open the other firm and make sure that all was right. The "ideal clerk" then began to be uneasy. He chafed at the delay, and said that he must be back at once—his manager's wife was waiting for the money, and if he didn't like to give it to him he could get it somewhere else. Would they give him the cheque back, and they could keep the gold? They did. Taking the piece of paper the young man left, apparently disgusted at the amount of suspicion present in the minds of some people. A little later on another firm was called up in a similar way on the telephone. Answering it they were met by an inquiry for the accountant—couched in a voice resembling that of a junior clerk. The accountant went to the telephone. "Wait a minute, please," he was asked. "Mr. So-and-So, our accountant wishes to speak to you." Then a similar request to that which had been made to Messrs. Lasseter and Company was made. "I don't know whether you have to much gold in the bank," the caller stated, "I don't suppose you have, but you would oblige us greatly if you could let us have it." He was informed that an attempt to oblige him would be made, and shortly afterwards the "ideal clerk" entered again, with a cheque for £33. This cheque was signed with the name of a lady—"the manager's wife." "I thought your firm was going to send the manager's cheque?" he was asked. "No," he replied, "it is mine."

A STATEMENT REFUTED.

Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, U.S.A., an earnest opponent of the war with Spain and of the expansion policy, which has developed in connection therewith, is the author of a vigorous pamphlet on the subject, which has been widely circulated among Members of Congress and other official and leading citizens in America. Feeling that some of the figures cited by Mr. Atkinson concerning the prevalence of venereal disease among British soldiers at Hongkong needed somewhat more of explanation as to their true significance, Mr. Aaron M. Powell, of New York, forwarded a copy to Mr. Henry J. Wilson, M.P., asking his comment thereon. Mr. Wilson's reply, in which he points out very clearly the inaccuracy of the figures, is given in the April number of the *Philanthropist*. After stating that he agrees very much in the general line taken by Mr. Atkinson in his pamphlet, Mr. Wilson says:—

"But there is one part which specially interests me, where, on page 8, he points out the greatest danger to which your military and naval forces may be exposed if the expansive policy prevails, viz, the agglomeration of large numbers of men in undesirable environments and far away from all home influence."

"The danger is only too real, as we know to our cost. There is, however, a tendency to make sensational statements about it. For example, an 'English gentleman' stated to Mr. Atkinson that 20 per cent of the English troops in Hongkong were infected with venereal disease every year. This is an enormous exaggeration. The figures for all forms of these diseases at Hongkong in the last four years for which we have the returns were, per 1,000 men, 256, 316, 300 and 459, giving an average of 308 per 1,000, but 308 represents admissions to hospital, and it is notorious and everywhere admitted, that the number of men affected is at least 25 per cent less than the number of admissions—that is to say, the same men are frequently admitted twice or often during the year. This reduces the average number at Hongkong to 77 men per 1,000, or less than one-tenth of the figure given by Mr. Atkinson. 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